Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: SHUM

SUBJECT: CONVENTION AGAINST TORTURE - ICJ PROPOSED

PROTOCOL

REF: (A) GENEVA 10061; (B) GENEVA 8902

- 1. NIALL MACDERMOT SECRETARY GENERAL OF INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF JURISTS (ICJ) TELEPHONED MISSOFF AND REQUESTED MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR VANDEN HEUVEL TO DISCUSS PROPOSED PROTOCOL TO TORTURE CONVENTION CITED IN REFS A AND B.
- 2. MACDERMOT SAID THAT HE HAS WRITTEN TO FIFTEEN GOVERNMENTS (FOUR OF THE 15 ARE WESTERN STATES) ASKING FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THE DOCUMENT. DURING MEETING WITH VANDEN HEUVEL SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY JULY 18 MACDERMOT WILL PROVIDE LIST OF THE 15 STATES WHICH MISSION WILL FORWARD TO THE DEPARTMENT.
- 3. AMONG OTHER THINGS THAT ICJ WILL RAISE AT THE MEETING IS HOW THE U.S. GOVERNMENT VIEWS THE PROTOCOL (REF A AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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- B), FAVORABLE OR UNFAVORABLE, EVEN THOUGH WE ARE NOT BEING ASKED TO CO-SPONSOR THE DRAFT. MACDERMOT IS ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT STEPS THAT MEMBER STATES WILL TAKE, INFORMALLY, DURING GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO ADVANCE ADOPTION OF DRAFT CONVENTION.
- 4. IN CONVERSATION WITH DANELIUS (SWEDISH DEL TO HUMAN

RIGHTS COMMISSION) MACDERMOT RECEIVED SARCASTIC RESPONSE WHEN ISSUE OF DRAFT PROTOCOL WAS RAISED. ACCORDING TO MACDERMOT DANELIUS BELIEVES THAT THE HRC WILL ADOPT THE CONVENTION, WITH SOME MODIFICATIONS, WITHIN THREE YEARS; WITH THE ADDITION OF THE PROPOSED PROTOCOL, HE SAID IT WOULD TAKE 20 YEARS TO GET MEMBER STATE ACCEPTANCE. DANELIUS' REACTION LEADS MACDERMOT TO BELIEVE THE SWEDES WILL FIGHT AGAINST THE PROTOCOL IN ALL UN FORA.

5. MISSION REALIZES THAT THOROUGH STUDY OF DRAFT PROTOCOL WILL REQUIRE CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF TIME, HOWEVER, ANY COMMENTS DEPARTMENT CAN PROVIDE MISSION BEFORE AMBASSADOR'S MEETING WITH MACDERMOT (JULY 18) WOULD BE APPRECIATED. VANDEN HEUVEL

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